



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

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Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture  
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## 2007 Milk Production, Disposition and Income

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Montana's dairies produced 333 million pounds of milk in 2007, down 6 percent from 2006. There was an average of 18,000 milk cows on farms and ranches during the year, down 1,000 head from the previous year. The average number of pounds produced per cow in 2007 was 18,500 pounds, 132 pounds below 2006.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during the year in Montana were \$61.1 million dollars, up 35 percent from 2006. Producers received an average of \$18.70 per cwt, an increase of \$5.60 per cwt from last year. Total marketings of milk, at 327 million pounds, were down 6 percent from a year ago. A total of 6 million pounds of milk were used on farms and ranches, unchanged from 2006. Of the total, 3 million pounds were fed to calves and 3 million pounds were consumed as milk, cream, and butter.

In the United States, cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2007 totaled \$35.4 billion, 51.4 percent higher than 2006. Producer returns averaged \$19.21 per hundredweight, 48.2 percent above 2006. Marketings totaled 184 billion pounds, 2.1 percent above 2006. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers and milk sold directly to consumers.

Milk production in 2007 increased 2.1 percent to 186 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 20,267 pounds, was 316 pounds above 2006. The annual average number of milk cows on farms was 9.16 million head, up 46,000 head from 2006.

An estimated 1.17 billion pounds of milk were used on farms where produced, 1.0 percent more than 2006. Calves were fed 87 percent of this milk, with the remainder consumed in producer households.

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